

In a message dated 98-06-12 15:26:45 EDT, cit...@mindspring.com writes:

}
} I appreciate all the positive responses to "The Great Manhunt: Is it just
} me??" Of course, there were a few in law enforcement and your resident
} socialist oxygen thieves who assumed that I was rooting for the bad guys
and
} hoping more police would be killed. Not only were your claims not true, but
} most of those rantings were graciously placed in the appropriate trash bin.
} But when a few "militia members" complained about the fact that I was
trying
} to tie the suspects to the militia, or portraying the militia in a bad
} light, this is a reason for clarify a few points here.
}
} First of all, I did use a bit of a flippant attitude while giving my
} opinions on the situation. This was done in part to demonstrate the
complete
} absurdity of what was going on in the Four Corners area. Perhaps a more
} serious look at what's going on over there might explain what "beef" I have
} with the whole operation.
}
} 1. Open-ended law-enforcement deployment policy.
}
} This was my main grievance (and still is) . The Colorado governor had to
} declare an emergency to fund a bunch of beat cops (no insult intended) to
go
} on a wilderness adventure. Speaking as a person who had just passed through
} the area recently, this open-ended policy was absolutely stupid, or it
} represents an abrupt change in law enforcement tactics. Anyone with regular
} eyesight could see that it would take a well-trained army to negotiate this
} type of terrain. Besides, aren't we endangering the lives of civilian law
} enforcement by putting them in harm's way when they aren't property trained
} for it?
}
} As also stated, "What happened to the old days when you would just find
} these suspect's faces on post offices around the country and be done with
} it?" Not only is the stack of wanted persons in the post office gradually
} approaching the size of a metropolitan phone book, but even in today's
} western museums, will still see the old posters which read "WANTED: DEAD OR
} ALIVE...", and you can fill in the blank. It was back in those days when
law
} enforcement would encourage citizen participation in finding wanted
} criminals, instead of today's policy of every law abiding citizen in the
} area being suspect without probable cause. True, it was a crude way of
} fighting crime back them, but it did bring law to the lawless in a vast
} hostile territory. Today, even the media is complaining about some of the
} violations of citizens' right that are taking place there.

}
}
} 2. Using the "militia" label.
}
} Believe it or not, I cannot (and did not) accuse the media of pinning that
} label on these suspects. In fact, it was Colorado Governor Roy Romer
(a.k.a.
} DNC chief) who first made the statement, "...We have evidence that ties
} these individuals to the Four Corners Militia". I actually should give
} credit to the media sources who cleared up the fact that this was not true.
} Still, it didn't stop the socialist stooges from hurling their biased
} regurgitation toward the news wires. After all, they really aren't good at
} anything else. I should also mention that a local police spokesman used the
} phrase "militia types" when describing the suspects. To you folks in law
} enforcement who had a problem with my last essay: Are we supposed to stand
by
} people who make slanted statements such as these? Since this obviously
} wasn't true, why should we trust anything else they say?
}
} But just for the sake of argument, let's throw the militia concept into the
} equation. What we have here is wanted suspects in crimes where there
alleged
} victims. They are considered armed and dangerous. From what I've learned,
} the "militia" way of handling it would be to armed every citizen, make the
} photos of the bad guys public and trusting the citizen help bring them to
} justice to blow them away on sight - with a healthy reward as the
motivator.
}
}
} Any disagreement from the militia camp?
}
} I didn't think so.
}
} But, no. The "federal" way of dealing with this is to set up unnecessary
} roadblocks, point loaded shotguns into the cars of innocent travelers, and
} find new and improved ways of violating the Bill of Rights and the
} sovereignty of an Indian Nation. And of course demonize ANYONE would dare
} draw attention to the stupidity of it all.
}
} By the way, recent Denver Post stories have covered the fact that many of
} the residents in the affected areas are in fact armed and ready to take out
} these suspects. Bravo.
}
} 3. Jurisdiction.
}
} Did it ever dawn on anyone that this area of America is Navajo Country? I

} clearly saw SUV's driven by armed Navajo Indians who regularly police their
} own turf. So why the multi- jurisdictional task force? Let me put it this
} way: I live in Nevada near the California border. I'm also about 100 miles
} from Arizona. If a member of my family was killed by some fugitive, could I
} expect a tri-state contingency of armor wearing, camouflaged agents to
} assist in his capture? I think not. That's why I made reference to the Jon
} Bonet Ramsey case. It's called "selective enforcement".
} ***
}
}
} Which bring me to my final point - the testosterone enhanced mind set of
too
} many in law enforcement. If some of you boys-in-black (er...I mean blue)
out
} there got a little miffed at my previous post, the rest of this should
} *really* get your panties in a wad.
}
} NOTE: I am certainly not referring to all in law enforcement.
}
} One of the post I received (giving me the devil - his words) referred to
the
} suspects as "cop killers". The same phrase was used in another flame which
} also suggested for that reason, we should all give all those badge-wearing
} folks a blank check and a blind eye over whatever transpires next in Navajo
} country. Someone even when so far as to say the I was "advocating that more
} cops be killed".
}
} No doubt you guys and gals have been getting briefed in your squad rooms
} just like we've been reading the wire services. And the stories are
becoming
} all too familiar. What am I saying? There is no need for me to advocate
what
} has become self-evident. Some of your arrogant, high-and- mighty, holier
} than thou, refusal to dis-engage attitudes has resulted in an unusual
number
} of targets being painted on your foreheads. Don't blame me for it! I didn't
} make the rules. This is called "unintended consequences".
}
} We tried to tell you to simply obey your oath, but NO! Instead we watch
your
} bosses justify virtually every murder your "colleagues" commit, followed by
} lobbying our legislators for more manpower, more firepower, and less
} restrictions on your behavior, while at the same time insist that we have
to
} wait 5 days before we can even defend ourselves- but only with a weapon
} approved by you first. C'mon guys, admit it. Doesn't this sound a bit one-
} sided?

}
} And about those "cop killers" being more dangerous than any other species on
} earth: Does the phrase "equal protection under the law" mean anything to
} you
} these days? A killer is a killer is a killer. It doesn't make a difference
} who the victim is. That badge doesn't make you any more or less human than
} me. "We have to do whatever it takes to protect our brave officers in the
} field- Constitution be damned!" I'm personally sick of hearing that silly
} excuse to violate the law. What about MY protection?? What about my
} rights??
} I don't recall voting for any of this!!
}
} Now I watch as these pathetic politicians and police chiefs are now going
} nuts because the "snake" they've created is biting them back in the tail.
} They pass law after law making each one of us criminals by default. Three
} strikes- you're out. Victim-less crimes. Mandatory minimums. Trials without
} juries. Torturing political prisoners. Military training and equipment for
} local law enforcement. Even trying to get Congress to ban body armor to
} civilians. If you think that the polls were in your favor, then you
} obviously didn't poll everybody.
}
} (Oh...Did I mention using tanks against a church and blowing a un-armed
} woman's head off while she's holding her infant - and getting away with
} it?)
}
} The greatest threat to law enforcement safety is not the criminal, the
} survivalist, the terrorist, or some rogue militiaman. It's the attitude of
} their superiors. Somewhere down the line, too many of you forgot who was
} paying your salaries. You took the phrase "Protect and Serve" and
} translated
} into "protect" yourselves and "serve" the government. Since most
} governments
} today insist on stealing more tax dollars than we're willing to give,
} law-abiding citizens have become suspect of crimes with the size of their
} wallets determining the level of guilt.
}
} What did you expect would happen when you continually act outside the scope
} of your duties? When you lobbied to get all those laws pass against regular
} citizens to stop the criminals you forgot something: Criminals don't obey
} the law. If they obeyed laws, they wouldn't be criminals (T. Sowell). Thus,
} we are all at the mercy of a "911" call. Sorry, but bullets travel a lot
} faster than those three digits.
}
} Go ahead. Call me names. Frankly, I would rather see no person get hurt or
} killed while doing their job. But when I was a utility worker, we knew the
} dangers of our job. Even if and when our supervisors repeatedly gave us

} assignments that were darn near fatal, we bent the "rules", played it safe,
} got the job done, and lived to collect the paycheck. That's why they called
} us "professionals". What about you?
}
} And Finally, I don't agree with most of what "militia types" do, but I
} understand why they were formed. While you may have learned that most are
} just "terrorists", I have learned that most of them just want to be free
and
} not be subjected to "terrorism". If that frightens you, or sounds
} intimidating, then maybe you should take a look in the mirror.
}
} It is EVERYONE'S responsibility to fight crime. Not just law enforcement.
If
} we want effective neighborhood block watch programs, more co-operation with
} the public, and safe streets over all, then stop putting yourselves on
} pedestals, and start "doing unto others, as you would do unto yourself".
The
} citizens of this country are more than willing to be your friends. Maybe
} it's time to put some *citizens* in charge of law enforcement for a while...
}
} ...And I plan on doing just that.
}
} J.J. Johnson - cit...@mindspring.com